long-range program—

Plan for Prattville park presented to Negro leaders

PRATTVILLE, Ala., Feb. 28—A recommended plan for a park was presented to Negro leaders here Tuesday. Commission representatives met with a committee in charge of the project.

The over-all plan, compiled by the State Planning Commission, is based on a long-range program and set up so units may be added as funds permit.

Leveling and grading are now under way on the area located on north Chestnut near the North Highland School. City officials expect to grade the area, build a multiple court, widen the present road, gravel walkways, build a barbecue pit and provide a parking area.

The blacktop court will be built to provide either tennis or two basketball courts. The long, open barbecue pit will be placed in a picnic grove and will be constructed of brick. The water board has agreed to run a line to the center of the park for a drinking fountain.

THE COUNCIL pointed out the plan is only a suggestion and that the park committee is free to make any changes it desires. The committee was also asked to select a name for the park.

This will be the third public park in Prattville. Pratt Park in South Prattville, has been largely equipped by the Service League while the park on the West Side is sponsored and operated by the Spinners.

The city assists with such items as roads, sanitation and other facilities. It has agreed to do the same for the third park.

By The Crusader Staff Photographer

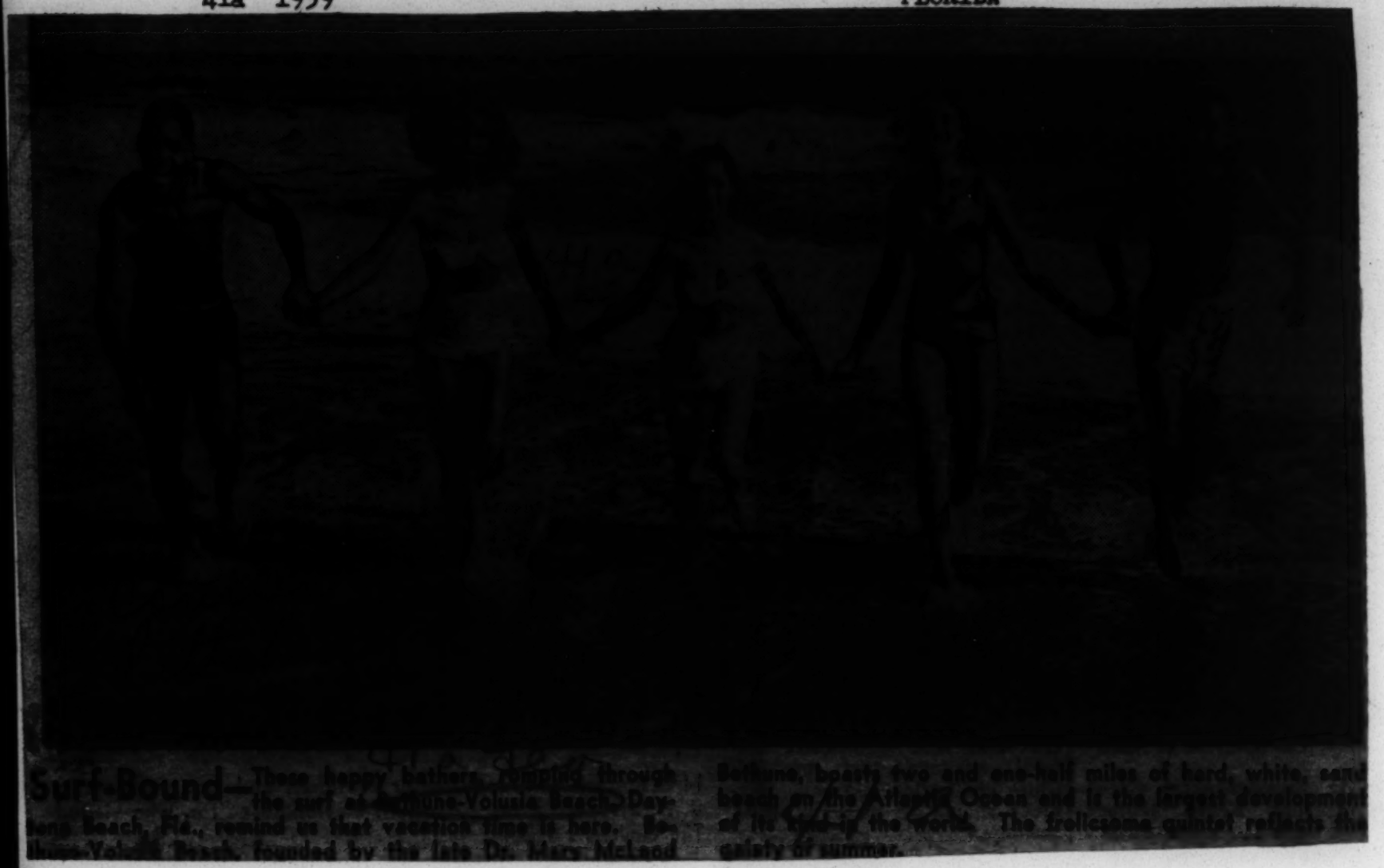
Post Washington, D.C.
41a

Versatility Is the Word at Lincoln-Capper Center

The Lincoln-Capper Recreation Center, 502 K st. se., is humming with activity these days as youngsters are bringing a summer's program of handiwork to a close, preparatory to returning to school. The versatility of their program is demonstrated by the products they exhibit above. Nathan Pugh, 12, at left, of 612 Condon terrace se., aided in the creation of the lamp shown, made from papier mache and a burned-out Griffith Stadium light bulb. In the second panel is Pamela Pullum, 10, of 1001 5th st. se., who made a South American dancer doll from felt paper and yarn. Bernard Jefferson, 17, of 1518 F st. se., poses in the next panel with a clown plaque fashioned from plaster of paris and at right is Adele Green, 14, of 601 Virginia ave. se., with papier mache masks she helped make. The center opened 14 months ago in the Arthur Capper Dwellings but attracts children from throughout that area.

Wash. Star 8-27-54

P A-38



Surf-Bound—These happy bathers, romping through the surf at Bethune-Volusia Beach, Daytona Beach, Fla., remind us that vacation time is here. Bethune-Volusia Beach, founded by the late Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, boasts two and one-half miles of hard, white, sandy beach on the Atlantic Ocean and is the largest development of its kind in the world. The frolicsome quintet reflects the gaiety of summer.

4la 1959

GEORGIA

Jekyll Okays Opening Of Negro Bath House

The Jekyll Island Authority Monday authorized operation of the Negro bath house on the island by the firm that is building a Negro motel and restaurant.

This St. Andrews Beach Club will operate the bathhouse on a temporary basis until enough information can be obtained to work out a permanent arrangement.

Representatives of the firm reported the Negro motel and restaurant are scheduled to open on June 30. They also requested an area for location of rides and amusement devices for children.

Secretary of State Ben W. Fortson Jr., authority chairman, was instructed to determine the cost of making a suitable area available.

Harvey Smith, operator of such devices in the white area, said he also will contact the Negro group.

Smith reported he will open a white amusement area next weekend, and he was authorized to stage a show and dance in the auditorium next May at a rental of 20 per cent of the gross receipts.

Upon request by Smith for a policy ruling, the authority voted to prohibit operation of motor-driven, passenger-carrying vehicles on the beach.

The authority also adopted a resolution urging location of a post office branch on the island.

At Jekyll Island

$299,000 Check Pleases Everyone

JEKYLL ISLAND, Ga.—When a check for $299,000 was deposited to the credit of the St. Andrew's Beach Corp. on July 31, it marked an era, for in turn checks were written by the Negro corporation to pay—in full—all those who had worked to make the new luxury resort a reality. The contractor was paid in full, first. He was C. W. Gilbert of Augusta.

Shortly after these chores were done, President William P. Randall conferred with Jekyll Island Authority officials about expansion of present facilities, and moves were begun to construct an additional motel with at least 40 units like the present one.

Soon after the dedication ceremony, two white financiers approached Mr. Randall, offering to put up the money for the expansion. The new project seems destined for success. TV sets were installed in all units last Tuesday and the new swimming pool will soon start construction. The General Auto Club is offering its 15,000 Negro members in Georgia membership in the new group and has placed the resort on its recommended list.—TWA.

Prejudice In a Will Ruled Out

Kansas City, Mo. Fri 10-16-59

LANSING, Mich. — (UPI) — A $25,000 gift for a playground for "white children" in Detroit was nullified by the Michigan Supreme court Monday because four justices detected racial prejudice in the will.

A 4-4 split upheld Ingham Circuit Judge Louis Coash in ruling the city could not carry out the provision of the will of Emma K. Sagendroph, former Detroit woman who died Dec. 19, 1953 in Webberville.

The will left money from her estate to the city for a "playground for white children" to be known as Sagendroph field. The money instead will now go to heirs Doris Lafond, Philip J. Dormier Sr., and Phyllis M. Dormier Carless.

The justices, Harry J. Kelly, Thomas Kavanaugh, John Dithmers and Leland W. Carr noted that the heirs said the will was "more a striking back at the Negro population than a charitable effort."

But Justice George Edwards said "We believe the basic purpose of the bequest is patently that of a memorial to her husband and herself to perpetuate their memory in a playground for the children in the city of Detroit."

Edwards said "all agreed" on the court that "the 14th amendment" prevents the city from carrying out the provisions of the will."

NEGROES MAY GET POOL

Hattiesburg May Purchase Property

HATTIESBURG, Miss., April 10.—Indications are Hattiesburg's Country Club swimming pool will be converted this summer into part of a recreational area for Negroes.

The Country Club plans to build a new golf course and pool in another area, and club officers have instructed the city they will sell the pool and 28 adjacent acres to the city for $51,225.

No final decision has been reached by the City Commission, but the mayor and one of the two commissioners have announced they consider the offer a bargain.

Memphis Negroes File U.S. Suit To Use All Parks

MEMPHIS (AP) — A federal court suit was filed Monday seeking use by Negroes of all Memphis parks, the municipal zoo and other recreational facilities on an unrestricted basis.

The suit was filed by H. T. Lockard, counsel for the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People. It was filed in behalf of Mrs. Lorlease Mathews, a Negro who claimed she was denied access to the zoo.

Under city policy, one day each week is set aside for Negroes to visit the zoo. Whites are barred on that day. The city also has parks exclusively for whites and others exclusively for Negroes.

Three other segregation suits are pending in federal court here. They involve admission of Negroes to Memphis State University, use of all public library facilities and unrestricted seating on public buses.

Letters From Our Readers—

'Mayor Of Beale Street' Calls For 'White Way

Make It Bright For Our Guests

Writer Sees Famed Street As Asset To City

To The Commercial Appeal:

I am appealing to the city to make a "white way" on Beale Street from Main to Lauderdale. I am not alone in this appeal for there are quite a number of whites as well as colored who are asking for this white way.

Most people who come to Memphis want to see Beale Street and we would love to have it presentable. I am asking support in "boosting" this program.

Beale Street is known the world over and I believe it is a credit to Memphis to have Beale Street in a presentable appearance.

I was in New York City 22 years ago and Bill Robinson took R. R. Church and myself to meet a ship that came into the harbor with people representing 10 different countries. I do not know how many people were on the ship but there were no less than 1,000. Coming off the ship, one man yelled to his friend with broken English, "Where do you go?" and he yelled back, "To Beale Street."

Help us to make Beale Street attractive for the benefit of Memphis and this community. Both Negroes and whites are anxious to see Beale Street a white way, so, we are asking you to help us "boost" this program for the betterment of Memphis.

M. THORNTON,
Mayor of Beale Street.
1187 South Wellington.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tenn.
Sun. 6-21-39

From Fla

Beale Street And Handy Park Are "Must" For Most Memphis Visitors